



**MICHIGAN
LICENSED
BEVERAGE
ASSOCIATION**

Thursday, May 08, 2014

RE: SB 0595

Good morning,

Madam Chair, members of the Committee, thank you for allowing me to speak today.

My name is Scott Ellis, Executive Director of the MLBA. I'm here today in opposition of Senate Bill 0595. The MLBA opposes this bill because we believe it unfairly targets one industry when human trafficking is not limited so plainly. The adult entertainment industry is a legitimate industry and creating a tax on one industry is simply unfair and not an efficient response to the human trafficking problem.

Human trafficking is a major concern for all of us, and that's because it's so far-reaching. Human trafficking can be found in many forms, such as labor slaves and sex slaves, but there is no evidence that the adult industry is the only or the largest violator of this crime. Taxing a single industry when this is a multi-industry affliction is misguided.

Human trafficking is everywhere and a tax increase isn't going to make this problem go away. Awareness of human trafficking is key and we believe better education on the issue will be the best way to curb this disturbing crime.

I'd like to thank you, Madam Chair and Committee members, for taking the time to listen to all of us today.

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